

Sinclair  
Broadcasting's  
decision to force  
their stations to  
air an anti-Kerry  
documentary days  
before the election  
is a crystal-clear  
example of the  
dangers of media  
consolidation.

Sinclair uses the  
public airwaves free  
of charge, and is  
obligated by law to  
serve the public  
interest. But when  
large companies  
control the  
airwaves, we get  
more of what's good  
for their own bottom  
line and less of  
what we need for our  
democracy. Instead  
of something  
produced at "News  
Central" far away,  
it's more important  
that we see real  
people from our own  
communities and more  
substantive news  
about issues that  
matter.

I have seen on my  
local Sinclair  
station (WPGH) the  
worst reporting ever  
on this election.  
Rather than address  
a campaign issue,  
they ran a story on  
"voter confusion,"  
but the piece was  
edited to emphasize  
confusion,  
including,  
literally, spinning  
heads and scary  
music. There was  
nothing of any  
substance, or  
clarity, in the  
report.

Sinclair's actions  
show why we need to  
strengthen media  
ownership rules, not  
weaken them. They  
show why the license  
renewal process

needs to involve  
more than a returned  
postcard. Thank you.